

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. Canceled.

2. (Currently Amended) The spindle of claim [[1]] 6, characterised in that it includes an element, a single piece made from treated steel, acting as the reel head and in which a projection of said collapsible and raisable part is introduced.

3. (Currently Amended) The spindle of claim [[1]] 6, characterised in that it includes a washer, arranged coaxially to said stem and which is positioned between the ~~disc~~ ~~discoidal~~ plate and the base of the spindle, preventing wear and tear.

4. (Previously Presented) The spindle of claim 3, characterised in that each of the ends of the reel include a bushing to prevent erosion of the stem when the ensemble rotates.

5. (Currently Amended) The spindle of claim 2, characterised in that it includes a washer arranged coaxially to said stem, and which is positioned between the ~~disc~~ ~~discoidal~~ plate and the base of the spindle, preventing wear and tear.

6. (New) A spindle for a braiding machine, comprising:
  - a stem mounted on a base and that is configured to receive a reel of thread;
  - a disc configured to be positioned under a reel of thread mounted on the stem and that rotates around said stem with the reel of thread;
  - a lever mounted on the base and configured to control rotation of the disc on the stem;
  - a pair of columns mounted on the base;
  - a thread support-guide that slides on the columns, wherein a downward movement of the thread support guide will move the lever;
  - a capsule mounted on the pair of columns;
  - a rod coupled to the thread support-guide;
  - a core coupled to the rod;
  - a spring mounted inside the capsule and coupled to the core; and
  - a collapsible and raisable part hingedly mounted on the capsule and that is configured to secure a top end of a reel of thread mounted on the stem, wherein said capsule includes an opening having dimensions that allow the spring to be inserted into and removed from the capsule through the opening.

7. (New) The spindle of claim 6, further comprising a tensing wire mounted between the thread guide and the lever.

8. (New) The spindle of claim 6, further comprising a spring configured to bias the lever into a predetermined position.

9. (New) A spindle for a braiding machine, comprising:

- a stem mounted on a base and that is configured to receive a reel of thread;
- a disc configured to be positioned under a reel of thread mounted on the stem and that rotates around said stem with the reel of thread;
- a lever mounted on the base and configured to control rotation of the disc on the stem;
- at least one column mounted on the base;
- a thread guide that slides on the at least one column, wherein a downward movement of the thread guide will cause the lever to move;
- a capsule mounted on the at least one column; and
- a spring mounted on the capsule and configured to bias the thread guide downward, wherein said capsule includes an opening having dimensions that allow the spring to be inserted into and removed from the capsule through the opening.

10. (New) The spindle of claim 9, further comprising a lever spring that biases the lever into a predetermined position.

11. (New) The spindle of claim 10, further comprising a tensing wire mounted

between the thread guide and the lever and configured such that downward movement of the thread guide against the tensing wire cause the tensing wire to move the lever against the bias of the lever spring.

12. (New) The spindle of claim 9, further comprising a tensing wire mounted between the thread guide and the lever and configured such that downward movement of the thread guide against the tensing wire cause the tensing wire to move the lever.

13. (New) The spindle of claim 9, further comprising a washer located between the base and the disc .

14. (New) The spindle of claim 9, further comprising a cap that is pivotally mounted on the capsule and that is configured to bear against a top of a reel of thread mounted on the stem to retain the reel of thread in place on the stem.

15. (New) The spindle of claim 14, further comprising a reel head configured to be positioned between the cap and a reel of thread mounted on the stem, wherein the reel head is a single piece made from treated steel.

16. (New) The spindle of claim 15, wherein the reel head is configured to be mounted inside a central aperture of a reel of thread, and wherein a depression in the reel head receives a projection on the cap.

17. (New) The spindle of claim 9, further comprising:

a rod that bears against the top of the thread guide; and

a core, wherein a bottom of the core bears against a top of the rod, and wherein a top of the core bears against the spring.

18. (New) The spindle of claim 17, wherein the top of the core is inserted into a bottom of the spring.

19. (New) The spindle of claim 9, wherein the at least one column comprises a pair of columns, wherein the thread guide is mounted on and moves along the pair of columns, and wherein the capsule is mounted on the top of the pair of columns.

20. (New) The spindle of claim 19, further comprising:

a cap that is pivotally mounted on the capsule and that is configured to bear against a top of a reel of thread mounted on the stem to retain the reel of thread in place on the stem; and

a reel head configured to be positioned between the cap and a reel of thread mounted on the stem, wherein the reel head is a single piece made from treated steel.

21. (New) The spindle of claim 20, wherein the reel head is configured to be mounted inside a central aperture of a reel of thread, and wherein a depression in the reel head receives a projection on the cap.